

acres and billions of dollars in lost produce and prevention costs each year due to invasive species. In addition, the ecosystems of our parks and wilderness areas are confronting devastating harm from these non-indigenous plants and pests. The rapid growth of international trade has resulted in a vastly increased volume of goods flowing into the country—goods that may carry prohibited foreign plants or noxious weeds.

These harmful invasive plants and species are causing considerable economic damage to natural resources nationwide. In my home state of Florida, Citrus Canker poses the largest threat to citrus crop production in recent history, necessitating over \$160 million in state and federal government funding to curb the disease. In the South, cotton producers and the federal government have spent nearly \$500 million to prevent damage to crops due to Bollweevil pests. Chicago and New York have suffered significant losses to the Asian longhorned beetle, which has destroyed thousands of trees in city neighborhoods. Noxious weeds have attacked crops in the Carolinas and in the rangelands of Oregon, Idaho and Washington. In California and Florida, invasive species have halted high-value agricultural exports from disease infested areas. The effect of invasive plants and species throughout the country is profound.

Exacerbating this problem are the outdated, fragmented, and confusing quarantine statutes that govern interdiction of prohibited plant and plant pests. Many of these laws date back to the early part of this century and have not been updated in decades. Our agricultural sector and public lands need a modern, effective statutory authority that will protect our crops from the introduction of harmful pests.

The Plant Protection Act of 1999 will build a solid foundation for the future by streamlining and modernizing plant interdiction laws. This legislation consolidates eleven existing statutes into one comprehensive law and eliminates outdated and ambiguous provisions. It also establishes effective deterrents against trafficking of prohibited species by increasing the monetary penalties for smuggling; providing the U.S. Department of Agriculture with a comprehensive set of investigatory tools; ensuring transparency for U.S. trading partners; and recognizing the benefits of new technologies such as biological control organisms.

The Plant Protection Act, originally introduced in the 105th Congress, will enhance the ability of our nation to protect its lands and crops by giving the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service the investigatory and enforcement tools it needs. The U.S. Department of Agriculture, as well as 45 agricultural organizations from throughout the country support the Plant Protection Act. I look forward to working with my colleagues to pass this vital and important legislation.

TRIBUTE TO HIS HIGHNESS
SHEIKH ISSA BIN SALMAN AL-
KHALIFA, LATE EMIR OF THE
STATE OF BAHRAIN

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 21, 1999

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, on Saturday, March 6th, His Highness Sheikh Issa Bin

Salman Al-Khalifa, the Emir of Bahrain, died suddenly. The world mourned with the people of Bahrain, and, last week, on April 14th, the State of Bahrain commemorated the 40th, and last, day of mourning.

Sheikh Issa played an important role as the leader of Bahrain. He supported U.S. and international efforts to promote peace and stability during the most difficult and contentious times in the Gulf and the Middle East. He was a man who relied on his intuition and led Bahrain from an oil-based economy to a diversified one. Under the Emir, Bahrain advanced in the Arab world, becoming the regional headquarters for many U.S. corporations doing business in the Middle East and a major financial hub in the Gulf.

Sheikh Issa's son, Sheikh Hamad Bin Issa Al-Khalifa, assumed his father's position as Emir of Bahrain, and is expected to follow in his father's footsteps in promoting economic development at home and political cooperation abroad. Soon after the Emir's death, His Highness, Sheikh Khalifa Bin Salman Al-Khalifa, the Prime Minister of Bahrain, gave a eulogy in memory of the late Emir.

Accordingly, Mr. Speaker, I request that his remarks be included in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD for our colleagues' review. I know that we all share in the sorrow of the citizens of Bahrain. Yet, we look forward to even closer bilateral relations between the United States and the State of Bahrain under Emir Hamad in the months and years to come.

EULOGY OF HIS HIGHNESS SHAIKH KHALIFA BIN
SALMAN AL-KHALIFA, PRIME MINISTER OF
THE STATE OF BAHRAIN

It is a most said occasion to stand here today over the lost of the dearest and most cherished of men, the late Emir H.H. Sheikh Issa Bin Salman Al-Khalifa, leader, father, and dear brother. May his soul rest in eternal peace and may God Almighty grant him mercy.

With the passing of H.H. Sheikh Issa Bin Salman Al-Khalifa, Bahrain and the Arab and Islamic world have lost a unique leader, who pledged himself and devoted his entire life to building and developing his country in all fields. He was tireless in his endeavors to achieve peace and security in the region and in the world. He was also a kind and gentle leader, full of love and devotion for his people. He set himself as an example that is hard to follow. As a leader and father, he combined wisdom with a loving heart and high moral standards of decency. In dealing with his people and other nations, he relied on justice and honesty. His ultimate goal was cooperation and peace for all relations among nations.

H.H. Sheikh Issa's reign was an era of peace, a time of building and progress, a time of development and national unity. During his reign, Bahrain achieved regional and international recognition in all fields—an achievement that makes us all very proud. Bahrain made progress and development in health, education, and housing. Our nation reached a higher economic status, as well as an excellent reputation of credibility abroad. Bahrain played a prominent role in establishing and strengthening the Gulf Cooperation Council. Under his leadership, our nation had a very positive role in all Arab issues, calling for solidarity, urging the removal of all matters of discord, and defending Arab rights and issues. Internationally, Bahrain attained a distinguished status due to the respect, trust, and friendship he personally developed with leaders of the world. Those leaders appreciated his great contributions in promoting world peace, security,

and stability and in strengthening international cohesion and cooperation, as well as supporting humane values and issues.

No words can really give adequate credit to the last Emir H.H. Sheikh Issa Bin Salman Al-Khalifa for his love for his country and his kindness to his people. He was a sincere Emir—a wise leader, an idealist in his devotion with concern and care for all Arab, Islamic, and world issues. H.H. Sheikh Issa shall remain a giant among men in the history of this nation for his great achievements and his high morals and ethics. His memory shall forever remain alive in the minds and hearts of his country and his loving people.

In this time of great sorrow for H.H. Sheikh Issa we take solace his son and successor, H.H. Sheikh Hamad Bin Issa Al-Khalifa, with every confidence that he will be a fit and able successor to his father. We are confident that his reign shall witness further development, progress, and prosperity due to his wisdom, excellent leadership capabilities, and strong administrative abilities. It is our pride to exert the utmost dedication in supporting H.H. Sheikh Hamad to continue the path of development which was established by the beloved, great leader nationally, regionally, and internationally.

We would also like to extend our best wishes to our dear son H.H. Sheikh Salman Bin Hamad Bin Issa Al-Khalifa on his appointment as Crown Prince—an appointment that has received the full consideration and support of all.

The proper transfer of leadership in this nation has a positive impact on all, since it reflects the solidity of the rule of law and all its institutions that the late Emir has established. In this sad time, we would like to express our sincere pride for the show of support displayed by the Bahraini people, symbolizing the spirit of a single family that the late leader was keen to develop. This spirit reflects the cohesion between the people of Bahrain and their leadership, as the late leader had wished.

We wish to extend our deepest gratitude and appreciation to the leaders, governments, and peoples of all brotherly and friendly states for their true sentiments and their generous participation with Bahrain on the sad demise of the late great leader, the father, and beloved brother H.H. Sheikh Issa.

May God Almighty grant our beloved leader mercy and rest in heaven. Peace and God's mercy by upon you all.

MATT MOSELEY IS A FINE EXAMPLE OF EXTRAORDINARY COURAGE

HON. MAC COLLINS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 21, 1999

Mr. COLLINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a resident of my Congressional district from Locust Grove, Georgia, who recently demonstrated extraordinary courage and bravery in the face of extreme danger.

Atlanta Professional Firefighter (member of Local 134) Matt Moseley began his day on April 12 like many others, at 7 am. He was called to a chemical spill in the morning, ate lunch at Fire Station 4 on Ellis Street, and then planned to spend the afternoon training. Little did he know what lay ahead.

A fire raging at the 120 year old Fulton Bag and Cotton Mill in southeast Atlanta had trapped construction worker Ivers Sims on a crane for over an hour some 220 feet above

the ground. After arriving on the scene, Moseley was hooked to a harness and flown in by helicopter to battle the intense heat, smoke, and swirling winds. His incredible skill and courage, along with that of pilot Boyd Clines and navigator Larry Rogers, all provided for a very daring and unbelievable rescue.

This is but another achievement in an already distinguished career for Mr. Moseley. He began his service as a firefighter with the Fayette County Fire and Emergency Services in 1991. He then went on to become a paramedic and a member of the department's hazardous materials response team. His hard work and dedication earned him recognition by his fellow department members as Firefighter of the Year in 1995. Shortly thereafter, he joined the Atlanta Fire Department where he continues to serve.

Following his brave act, Firefighter Moseley humbly remarked, "Heroes are for the last show." Well they are also for towns like Locust Grove, cities like Atlanta, and states like Georgia. Mr. Speaker, we often overlook the daily sacrifices our brave firefighters make each and every day to our communities. I would like to extend my personal commendation and gratitude to Mr. Moseley and to all the men and women who put their lives on the line serving as firefighters. They truly are heroes of our Nation.

TRIBUTE TO WILLIAM MORROW ON
HIS INDUCTION TO THE UPPER
PENINSULA LABOR HALL OF
FAME

HON. BART STUPAK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 21, 1999

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Speaker, since 1993 eleven outstanding labor leaders, individuals who have contributed to organizing, workplace fairness, worker dignity, and the advancement of the labor movement in northern Michigan, have been honored with induction into the Upper Peninsula Labor Hall of Fame. The Hall of Fame is housed in the Superior Dome on the campus of Northern Michigan University in Marquette.

I have the honor once again this year to participate in this important and inspiring induction ceremony, which pays tribute to the dedicated efforts of the late William Morrow of Escanaba on behalf of the labor movement.

Mr. Morrow is being recognized for his efforts in organizing the construction laborers in the Upper Peninsula and his assistance in obtaining a charter for Laborer's International Union of North America, Local 1329, based in Iron Mountain, Mich.

William Morrow's parents died when he was young, and he began working at age 16 as an operator of heavy equipment on dredges. He joined a union, because he believed a working person could receive a fair wage and decent working conditions with a union contract.

Mr. Speaker, William Morrow believed unions helped both the ordinary working person and the employer, and he believed in the basic principle, "an honest day's work for an honest day's pay."

He was a member of the International Union of Operating Engineers, Local 324, and busi-

ness representative from 1951–1968. He served as vice president for Local 324 from 1964–1968, and he achieved lifetime membership in Local 324 in December 1977. William Morrow's widow, Gertrude, still lives in Escanaba.

We can praise the everyday efforts of the hard-working men and women of Michigan, Mr. Speaker, but there are monuments to the quality of their work that make our mere words seem insufficient to the task. One such monument is the great Mackinac Bridge, which connects Upper and Lower Michigan across the deep and dangerous Straits of Mackinac.

Mr. Morrow worked on the bridge, part of the dredging operation necessary for construction of the two great towers of the suspension bridge. He was one of the more than 11,000 workers—3,500 on the site and 7,500 in shops and quarries off the site—required to construct this engineering marvel and testament to the courage and dedication of working America.

I look forward each year to the opportunity to gather with friends and associates in northern Michigan to praise these men and women, people like William Morrow, who have dedicated themselves to doing great work as an ordinary, everyday task. I ask my colleagues in the House to join me in praising these remarkable efforts.

HONORING THE SACRIFICE, SERVICE, AND HEROISM EXHIBITED
BY THE WORLD WAR II UNITED
STATES NAVAL ARMED GUARD
VETERANS

HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 21, 1999

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to pay special tribute to the World War II United States Naval Armed Guard Veterans. Created in World War I and expanded in World War II, the Naval Armed Guard performed the vital service of protecting our merchant vessels and their precious cargo from enemy attack. Without these service-members' heroic and inspirational service, the United States' overseas supply lines would have been compromised and our Nation's efforts abroad would have been impeded. Indeed, the United States' owes its ultimate victory in the preservation of freedom and democracy to the struggles and sacrifices of the 144,900 members of the Navy serving in the Armed Guard during World War II.

Although lacking the best available weapons and technology, these servicemembers insured the safe passage of thousands of troops overseas by manning the guns on both Army and War Shipping transports. By sheer determination, these members transcended the harrowing dangers involved in riding slow cargo ships across what German U-boat captains called the "shooting gallery" and fought off countless enemy planes, submarines, and other enemy vessels. In these efforts nearly 2,000 servicemembers lost their lives and thousands more were wounded or taken prisoner.

Many nations like Great Britain, France, Russia, and the Philippines have awarded high honors to the members of the Naval Armed Guard for their valor and accomplish-

ments in aiding these nations during World War II. It is now long past due that the United States follow suit and commend these servicemembers for their invaluable service in the preservation of freedom and democracy and in the protection of our troops abroad.

I therefore ask that my colleagues pause with me to honor the World War II Naval Armed Guard Veterans. I am greatly honored to join many others throughout the world in saying thank you to the Naval Armed Guard veterans for their vigilance in defending our great country. We salute you for your service to our nation, and your willingness to sacrifice your lives and safety so that others might enjoy your legacy of freedom. Your efforts will not be forgotten.

THE NEED FOR SUSTAINABLE
COMMUNITIES

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 21, 1999

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, by the middle of the next millennium, the world's population is expected to reach 8 to 12 billion people. Right now we are adding about 86 million people annually. All of us must find common ground on the issues of land and resource use and sustainable communities.

Recently, a groundbreaking took place in North Toledo to provide 49 families with new homes in the North River neighborhood. That event gave me great hope that, as a community—a multitude of jurisdictions in one of the most bountiful regions of the world—people in northwest Ohio are improving the quality of life in existing neighborhoods and making it attractive for commercial investment on reusable land—precious land.

As an Urban Planner myself, I hope that gone are the days that we neglect and abandon what has been developed for another site at the expense of the original location.

To promote a livable community, cooperation between public and private institutions is essential. Cooperation between neighboring communities, cities, suburbs and rural areas will be the key to meeting the needs of the 21st century—greater populations, more traffic, sprawl, and pollution.

We must have as our goal, a community that works together for our common good, not just individual special interests.

Together, individuals, families, businesses and civic organizations must become involved in local planning, to ensure that every voice is heard and all concerns are represented at the table.

By planning more wisely for more livable communities, we will be able to preserve our precious open spaces for generations to come. Such a conscious vision will enable families to enjoy our country's natural beauty. And we'll be able to preserve our precious farms and prime farmland which America has been losing at alarming record rates.

U.S. Census figures show that from 1982 to 1992 Ohio lost 1.2 million acres of irreplaceable farmland to development. But unfortunately, this isn't native only to Ohio. Across the nation, prime farmland with the highest productivity is being lost. Globally, these sources of food, fiber and vegetable production cannot be reinvented.